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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

DELGADO, MICHAEL A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2144

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5

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/764,308

Applicant(s)

TERADA, TAKANORI

Examiner

Michael S. A. Delgado

Art Unit

2144

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3,4</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. A substitute specification in proper idiomatic English and in compliance with 37 CFR 1.52(a) and (b) is required. The substitute specification filed must be accompanied by a statement that it contains no new matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,721,785 by Raghunandan.

In claim 1, Raghunandan teaches about an E-mail device comprising (Fig 2):

a first detection module (computer readable code that identifies the different groups) of detecting that a plurality of multicast target mail destination addresses exist in a hysteresis “storage” (Col 4, lines 30-40) (Col 5, lines 35-45); and

a generating module of executing a process of generating a group “group alias4” formed of the plurality of mail destination addresses “ alias41.... Alias4n” , corresponding to the detection (Col 6, lines 10-20).

In claim 2, Raghunandan teaches about an E-mail device according to claim 1, further comprising a second detection module of detecting that there does not exist the group corresponding to the mail destination addresses existing in the hysteresis (Col 5, lines 45-60) (New group is formed base on selection command),

wherein said generating module executes the process of generating the group if there does not exist the group corresponding to the mail destination address (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 3, Raghunandan teaches about an E-mail device according to claim 1, wherein said generating module includes an adding module "inclusion directive" of adding the group name corresponding to the mail destination address to group management information (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 4, Raghunandan teaches about an E-mail device according to claim 3, wherein said adding module includes a providing module of providing an occasion of registering "email transmission directive" the group name corresponding to the mail destination address (Col 5, lines 45-60). (The email transmission directive determines who is qualify to receive the email base on the occasion at hand)

In claim 5, Raghunandan teaches about an E-mail device according to claim 4, wherein said adding module further includes a first registering module of registering the group name

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inputted by a user in the group management information on the occasion of registering the group name "alias" (Col 1, line 65- Col 2, line 5).

In claim 6, Raghunandan teaches about an E-mail device according to claim 5, wherein said adding module further includes a second registering module of registering a piece of registration reject state information in the group management information when the user rejects the registration of the group name on the occasion of registering the group name (Col 3, lines 30-40). (the exclusion directive that remove names from the final list)

In claim 7, Raghunandan teaches about an E-mail device according to claim 4, further comprising a setting module of setting an input count of the mail destination address in the hysteresis in order to provide the occasion of registering the group name (Col 6, lines 10-20).

In claim 8, Raghunandan teaches about an E-mail device according to claim 3, wherein said adding module generates the group name by a predetermined algorithm "rules" and adds this group name to the group management information (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 9, Raghunandan teaches about an E-mail device according to claim 1, further comprising a selecting module "selection command" of enabling the user to select whether the process of generating the group is to be executed or not (Col 5, lines 45-60).

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In claim 10, Raghunandan teaches about a method of generating a group of mail addresses, comprising (Fig 2):

detecting that a plurality of multicast target mail destination addresses exist in a hysteresis “storage” (Col 4, lines 30-40), (Col 5, lines 35-45); and

executing a process of generating a group formed of the plurality of mail destination addresses, corresponding to the detection (Col 6, lines 10-20).

In claim 11, Raghunandan teaches about an method of generating a group of mail addresses according to claim 10, further comprising:

detecting that there does not exist the group corresponding to the mail destination addresses existing in the hysteresis (Col 5, lines 45-60); (This is done by checking the selection command) and

executing the process of generating the group if there does not exist the group corresponding to the mail destination address (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 12, Raghunandan teaches about an method of generating a group of mail addresses according to claim 10, further comprising:

adding the group name corresponding to the mail destination address to group management information “inclusion directive” (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 13, Raghunandan teaches about an method of generating a group of mail addresses according to claim 12, further comprising:

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providing an occasion of registering the group name corresponding to the mail destination address “email transmission directive” (Col 5, lines 45-60). (The email transmission directive determines who is qualify to receive the email base on the occasion at hand)

In claim 14, Raghunandan teaches about an method of generating a group of mail addresses according to claim 13, further comprising:

registering the group name inputted by a user in the group management information on the occasion of registering the group name (Col 1, line 65- Col 2, line 5).

In claim 15, Raghunandan teaches about an method of generating a group of mail addresses according to claim 14, further comprising:

registering a piece of registration reject state information in the group management information when the user rejects the registration of the group name on the occasion of registering the group name (Col 3, lines 30-40).

In claim 16, Raghunandan teaches about an method of generating a group of mail addresses according to claim 13, further comprising:

setting an input count of the mail destination address in the hysteresis in order to provide the occasion of registering the group name (Col 6, lines 10-20).

In claim 17, Raghunandan teaches about an method of generating a group of mail addresses according to claim 12, further comprising:

generating the group name by a predetermined algorithm “rules” and adding this group name to the group management information (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 18, Raghunandan teaches about an method of generating a group of mail addresses according to claim 10, further comprising:

enabling the user to select whether the process of generating the group is to be executed or not “selection command” (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 19, Raghunandan teaches about an readable-by-computer medium recorded with a program, executed by a computer, comprising (Fig 2):

a step of detecting that a plurality of multicast target mail destination addresses exist in a hysteresis “storage” (Col 4, lines 30-40) (Col 5, lines 45-60); and

a step of executing a process of generating a group formed of the plurality of mail destination addresses, corresponding to the detection (Col 6, lines 10-20).

In claim 20, Raghunandan teaches about a readable-by-computer medium recorded with a program, executed by a computer according to claim 19, further comprising:

a step of detecting that there does not exist the group corresponding to the mail destination addresses existing in the hysteresis (Col 5, lines 45-60); (This is done by checking the selection command) and

a step of executing the process of generating the group if there does not exist the group corresponding to the mail destination address (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 21, Raghunandan teaches about a readable-by-computer medium recorded with a program, executed by a computer according to claim 19, further comprising a step of adding the group name “inclusion directive” corresponding to the mail destination address to group management information (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 22, Raghunandan teaches about a readable-by-computer medium recorded with a program, executed by a computer according to claim 21, further comprising a step of providing an occasion of registering the group name corresponding to the mail destination address (Col 5, lines 45-60). (The email transmission directive determines who is qualify to receive the email base on the occasion at hand).

In claim 23, Raghunandan teaches about a readable-by-computer medium recorded with a program, executed by a computer according to claim 22, further comprising a step of registering the group name inputted by a user in the group management information on the occasion of registering the group name (Col 1, line 65- Col 2, line 5).

In claim 24, Raghunandan teaches about a readable-by-computer medium recorded with a program, executed by a computer according to claim 23, further comprising a step of registering a piece of registration reject state information in the group management information when the user

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rejects the registration of the group name on the occasion of registering the group name (Col 3, lines 30-40). (The exclusion directive that remove names from the final list)

In claim 25, Raghunandan teaches about a readable-by-computer medium recorded with a program, executed by a computer according to claim 22, further comprising a step of setting an input count of the mail destination address in the hysteresis in order to provide the occasion of registering the group name (Col 6, lines 10-20).

In claim 26, Raghunandan teaches about a readable-by-computer medium recorded with a program, executed by a computer according to claim 21, further comprising a step of generating the group name by a predetermined algorithm "rules" and adding this group name to the group management information (Col 5, lines 45-60).

In claim 27, Raghunandan teaches about a readable-by-computer medium recorded with a program, executed by a computer according to claim 19, further comprising a step of enabling the user to select whether the process of generating the group is to be executed or not "selection command" (Col 5, lines 45-60).

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US Patent 6,289,372 by Vyazniko teaches about a method for transmitting and processing group messages in the e-mail system.


US Patent 6,289,372 by Rothschild et al teaches about a server-group messaging system for interactive applications.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael S. A. Delgado whose telephone number is 703-305-8057. The examiner can normally be reached on 7.30 AM - 5.30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, WILLIAM A CUCHLINSKI JR can be reached on (703)308-3873. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


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